

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 269 355

SP 027 369

AUTHOR Narang, H. L.
TITLE "How Are You Doing?" A Follow-up of Education Graduates of Spring 1985.
INSTITUTION Regina Univ. (Saskatchewan). Faculty of Education.
PUB DATE Dec 85
NOTE 14p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Research/Technical (143)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Education Work Relationship; *Followup Studies; Foreign Countries; Graduate Surveys; Schools of Education; *Teacher Employment; *Teaching (Occupation)

IDENTIFIERS *University of Regina SK

ABSTRACT

The major purpose of this study was to determine the employment status of education graduates from the 1985 class at the University of Regina (Saskatchewan, Canada). Responses were received from 124 graduates. Information is reported on the following questions: (1) What was the employment success rate of education graduates? (2) To what locales did the graduates make their applications and what was the average number of applications made? (3) In what locales were teaching positions accepted? (4) In what division(s) of the school program did the graduates have their major teaching responsibility? (5) What subjects were graduates teaching in which they had eight or less than eight credit hours as part of their training? (6) What types of jobs, other than teaching, did the graduates accept and why? and (7) Were the unemployed graduates pursuing further study and if so, for what degrees or qualifications? (JD)

* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *

ED269355

"HOW ARE YOU DOING?"

A Follow-up of Education Graduates of Spring 1985

FACULTY OF EDUCATION



UNIVERSITY OF REGINA

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS
MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

N. L. Narany

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION
CENTER (ERIC)

- ☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
- ☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

- Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

SP 027369

"HOW ARE YOU DOING?"

A Follow-up of Education Graduates of Spring 1985

Dr. H.L. Narang
Faculty of Education
University of Regina
Regina, SK
S4S 0A2

December 1985

"How Are You Doing?"
A Follow-up of Education Graduates of Spring 1985

Introduction

The major responsibility of the Faculty of Education is to prepare teachers for kindergarten to grade twelve classrooms. The Faculty offers a variety of 4-year B.Ed degree programs. A two-year degree program is also offered for those who already have a bachelor's degree in Arts, Science, or another field of study. Convocation is held twice a year to award degrees and the number of education students who graduate each year is higher than the number of students who graduate from any other Faculty at the University of Regina.

Purpose of the Study

The major purpose of this study was to determine the employment status of education graduates from the Spring 1985 Convocation. More specifically, the study addressed the following questions:

1. What was the employment success rate of education graduates?
2. To what locales did the graduates make their applications and what was the average number of applications made?
3. In what locales were teaching positions accepted?
4. In what Division(s) of the school program did the graduates have their major teaching responsibility?
5. What subjects were graduates teaching in which they had eight or less than eight credit hours as part of their training?
6. What types of jobs, other than teaching, did the graduates accept and why?
7. Were the unemployed graduates pursuing further study and if so, for what degrees or qualifications?

8. What suggestions did the graduates have to offer to enhance their employability?

Method

A list containing the names of 169 education students who graduated in the Spring of 1985 was obtained from the office of the Coordinator of Student Program Counselling. A 20-item questionnaire was developed and mailed to these graduates on October 2, 1985.

A Follow-up letter was sent on October 24, 1985 to those who had not returned the completed questionnaire. A second follow-up was sent on November 7, 1985 to those who did not respond to the first follow-up letter.

Data Analysis

Of the 169 questionnaires mailed, 12 were returned undelivered and 124 were received as completed. Of the 124 questionnaires, 15 were completed by persons who obtained their degree while they held a teaching position. These 15 questionnaires were not included in the data analysis except in Tables I and II. The ratio of males to females among the respondents was 1:4. The average age of the respondents was 28 years. The number of graduates in each program of study is provided in Table I below:

Table I
Number of Graduates in Education Programs

<u>Program</u>	<u>No. of Graduates</u>	<u>%age</u>
Elementary	51	41
B.E.A.D. Elementary	8	6
Secondary	29	23
B.E.A.D. Secondary	11	9
B.Ed General	9	7
Arts Education	2	2
B.Mus.Ed.	2	2
Others	<u>12</u>	10
Total	124	

Results

The results of each of the questions asked are presented below. The number of responses to some questions does not match with the number of questionnaires returned because some respondents did not answer all the questions. The total of the percentage column may not be 100 in some cases because of rounding off.

1. Job Status of Graduates

The job status of graduates is presented in Table II below:

Table II

Job Status of Graduates

<u>Job</u>	<u>No. of Graduates</u>	<u>%age</u>
Returning to previous teaching position	15	12
Teaching (k-12)	74	61
Teaching other than K-12	4	3
Other than teaching	10	8
No job: Pursuing further studies	14	11
No job	<u>5</u>	4
Total	122	

2. Preferred Locales*

The number of applications made by graduates ranged from 1 to 85 with an average of 17. The three locales in order of preference to which their applications were sent are given in Table III below:

Table III

Preferred Locales

<u>Locale</u>	<u>No. indicating 1st choice</u>	<u>No. actually getting jobs</u>	<u>%age</u>
Regina or Saskatoon	44	27	39
Small towns & rural areas	34	30	43
Other cities	<u>22</u>	<u>12</u>	17
Total	100	69	

Most persons preferred a job in large cities, Regina and Saskatoon. However, the largest number of successful candidates found jobs in small towns and rural areas which ranked second in order of preference.

* Analysis from now on is based on 109 or 64% of the questionnaires received from the newly qualified teacher.

3. Location of Teaching Positions

Most of the graduates are teaching in K-12 classrooms in Saskatchewan schools as shown in Table IV below:

Table IV

Location of Teaching Positions

<u>Province</u>	<u>No. of Graduates</u>	<u>%age</u>
Saskatchewan	69	93
Alberta	2	3
Manitoba	0	0
Other provinces/territories	2	3
Other country	<u>1</u>	1
Total	74	

Of the graduates seeking positions for the first time, 65 or 88% were employed full time and the rest were either in part-time or substitute teaching positions.

4. Major Teaching Responsibility

The major teaching responsibility in terms of Division(s) to which the graduates were assigned is shown in Table V below:

Table V

Major Teaching Responsibility by Divisions

<u>Division(s)*</u>	<u>No. of Graduates</u>	<u>%age</u>
I	19	26
II	14	19
I & II	4	5
III	7	9
IV	8	11
III & IV	10	14
I - III	4	5
I- IV	1	1
Others	<u>7</u>	9
Total	74	

The results indicate that 25% of the graduates were teaching in two or more divisions.

* Division I includes grades K-3, II grades 4-6, III grades 7-9 and IV grades 10-12.

5. Subject Matter Preparation

Graduates were asked to indicate up to four subjects that they were teaching in which they had taken eight or fewer credit hours as a part of their degree. The results are shown in Table VI below. Some graduates were teaching in more than one Division.

Table VI

<u>Subject Matter Preparation</u>		
<u>Division(s)</u>	<u>No. of Graduates Teaching</u>	<u>No. with 8 or less Credit Hours</u>
I, II (separately or in combination)	37	32
III	7	7
I-III	4	1
IV	8	7
III & IV (combined)	10	10
I-IV	1	1

Subjects with 8 or less credit hours of preparation which were cited by at least 25% of the respondents are listed below. The number of respondents is indicated in parentheses against each subject.

Division I & II

Social Studies (10)

Physical Education (9)

Mathematics (8)

Science (8)

Division III

Guidance (3)
Health (2)
Home Economics (2)
Mathematics (2)
Social Studies (2)

Division IV

Computer Science (2)
English (2)
Home Economics (2)

Division III & IV

English (4)

6. Jobs Other Than Teaching

The number of graduates who had jobs other than teaching is shown below in Table VII.

Table VII

<u>Jobs Other Than Teaching</u>		
<u>Job</u>	<u>No. of Graduates</u>	<u>Age</u>
Office Work	6	60
Professional Work	1	10
Technical Work	1	10
Sales Work	<u>2</u>	20
Total	10	

Eight of these graduates were not offered a teaching position. One was offered but did not accept it because of unacceptable geographic area, and one did not accept a teaching position because of interest in another job.

7. Further Study

Fourteen of the 19 unemployed graduates or 11% of the total respondents were pursuing further study for the degrees/qualifications listed in Table VIII below:

Table VIII

Number of Graduates for Further Study

<u>Degree/Qualification</u>	<u>No. of Graduates</u>	<u>Age</u>
Postgraduate Diploma in Education	3	21
M.Ed, M.A., or M.Sc.	2	14
B.A., B.Sc.	1	7
Other	<u>8</u>	57
	14	

All of these respondents were pursuing further study on a part-time basis.

8. Suggestions for Enhancing Employability

A small number of respondents provided suggestions for enhancing the employability of graduates. Suggestions made are listed below in Table IX. The number of respondents making the suggestion is shown in parenthesis against each.

Table IX

Suggestions for Enhancing Employability

Preparation for Successful Interview	(7)
Specialization in French Education or Special Education for a Large-city Job	(4)
Duties/Expectations of a Full-time Teacher	(3)
Training for Effective Resumé Writing	(2)
Preparation for Extra-curricular Activities	(2)
Restrict Admission/Graduation	(2)
Posting Notices for Employment Opportunities	(1)
Information about Employment out of Sask	(1)

Conclusions

The following conclusions can be drawn from this study:

1. The job success rate of Spring 1985 education graduates as of Fall 1985 is very high. (12% returned to a previous teaching position, 61% obtained a teaching position in a school, 3% got a teaching position other than K-12, 8% have a job other than teaching, a total of 84%).
2. Of the 16% unemployed graduates, 11% were pursuing further study on a part-time basis. (The overall success rate for those employed and those pursuing further study is 95%).
3. The job opportunities are greater in small towns and rural areas than in the cities.
4. According to students those with specialization in French Education or Special Education have a better chance of getting a job in large cities (Regina and Saskatoon) than others.
5. Twenty-five percent of the graduates teaching in K-12 classrooms were teaching in ^{two} ~~few~~ or more ~~multidivisions~~ ^{multidivisions} of the school program.
6. Fifty-five percent (55%) of the graduates were teaching one or more subjects in K-12 in which they had eight or fewer credit hours as a part of their degree.

7. Eight percent of the graduates had a non-teaching job.
8. Some graduates perceived that information about job opportunities, preparation for interview, and resumé writing would enhance their employability.
9. A few graduates have suggested that understanding the role and responsibilities of a full-time teacher would add to their confidence during the job interview and at the job itself.